Closter N.J. Feb. 21st. 1866.

Dear Dr. Gray. I forget whether or I have yet acknowledged the receipt of your returning names of Colorado specimens. My friend from whom I received the specimens was highly pleased to have them named.

I sent you a few days ago a few specimens of ~~Fil~~ Filicoids from Closter. The Botrychium was named by Eaton. The Equisetum he has not yet seen but I have no doubt they are correctly named. The E. pratense rarely fruits but I have two fertile specimens - and were they not ground down I would have sent one. The ~~other~~ E. arvense is a state found where the ground is disturbed by the tread of cattle or by ~~frequent disturbing~~ the picks moved of the laborer - as in rail road embankments. I sent you the same

and - within 2 1/2 miles of my door have picked up over 20 species of Hepaticae new to this Country. And have a great desire to go away from home to look for these things. I want to explore (particularly) (for Hepaticae) in the Southern Alleghenies - in the Catskill Mountains and in the White Mts - at least in the last mentioned - during the coming season - but my circumstances are such that unless I can get a little substantial aid from some outside source ~~[illegible]~~ I fear I shall have to forego the enterprise entirely. I have ~~thought~~ that some institution of learning or some Scientific society might be induced to aid me, if the subject were properly laid before them. but I have no one to do this for me. and am not sufficiently well known to warrant me in doing it myself. I have applied to the Smithsonian but Prof. Henry writes me they are out of funds - else my proposal would in all probability have been accepted. Would it be in your power to induce Cambridge or any other institution or society to aid me in this - to me most important enterprise? If so I should be most grateful for your influence. The expense would be small. and I should endeavor to make them as light as possible. And the Collection would be considered the property of the institution or society defraying this expense. Very truly yours C. F. Austin

thing once before (under the same name) — I think in 1858.

I had a good opportunity last summer for observing the characters of the var.? ceriferum of Thalictrum Cornuti and found ~~that~~, besides the (under surface of the) leaves — peduncles and fruit being thickly coated with waxy glaring — that the stem is smaller and more slender. darker purple and not grooved, leaves thicker and more strongly revolute on the margins filaments much longer always, more or less tinged with purple (as are all parts of the flowers both male & female) drooping anthers ~~3 times as large~~ — twice as long (twice as) and broad. carpels always short — yet in the typical var. they are sometimes full as short. besides the plant has a decided and peculi=
=iar odor of which the typical var. is entirely destitute. I found a large quantity of it growing in the upper end of a meadow and mixed with the typical var. but the typical var. did not extend so far up on the dry ground nor did this extend into the wet ground as the other did. It began to expand its flowers on the 5th of June and on the 20th not a plant could be found with a flower on it. they having all passed away within the space of 15 days. No flowers were found on the typical var. until about the 20th of June and they were found in the same pasture as late as the Middle of Aug. (On the var. the sepals are much more persistent). I am not yet satisfied that it does not pass into the typical form, but if I have an opportunity I shall satisfy myself fully, the coming summer.

I have collected nearly every=
=thing which grows about here.